



emcdda

## Factsheet IRELAND

This factsheet is part of the EMCDDA [Take-home naloxone – topic overview](#)

General information	<b>Geographical coverage</b>	First locations selected for demonstration project: Dublin; Waterford/South East; Limerick; Cork. Further expanded to: Tipperary, Galway, Kerry
	<b>Type of Intervention</b>	Continuing as demonstration project with the outcome that there will be national coverage
	<b>Starting year</b>	2015
	<b>Settings</b>	* in-patient detox/ rehab/ treatment * substitution treatment * low-threshold setting

Regulatory challenges	<b>Prescription</b>	The use of naloxone requires a prescription. The majority of stakeholders believe that the current legislation is a barrier to the wider availability of and access to naloxone.
	<b>Distribution</b>	Due to the prescription requirement, naloxone cannot be held safely in stock by families or service providers for use in the event of an emergency. The five administrations that occurred during the Demonstration indicated that the freedom to hold/store naloxone carefully and safely in assigned locations would correspond better to the reality of its use.
	<b>Administration</b>	N/A
	<b>Barriers</b>	Accreditation of the layperson training and organisation that can deliver it has been delayed which affects full implementation of the legislative change, SI 449. Client access and family access are limited as it is a prescription-only medication.

Medication	<b>Product used</b>	Prenoxad® Nyxoid®
	<b>Application</b>	* injecting * Nasal
	<b>Content of THN Kit</b>	* pre-filled syringe with needles * nasal spray dispenser
	<b>Number of doses per kit</b>	5 (one 2ml syringe) 2 (nasal spray dispensers)

Distribution, refill and post-training monitoring	<b>Distribution of THN</b>	* on-site at low threshold agencies * on-site at outpatient treatment centers * to clients of OST programmes * Within the prison estate, naloxone may be administered by a nurse, in an emergency, without prescription. * <i>availability is an issue as still a POM, and awaiting reimbursement scheme</i>
	<b>Mandatory training</b>	Yes
	<b>Content of training</b>	* recognising overdose symptoms * overdose management * aftercare procedures * effects of naloxone * possible adverse reactions to naloxone * possible risks and benefits of THN-programme * application of naloxone * how to store naloxone * legal aspects * practicing of the skills trained * other: <i>training strictly emphasises importance of calling for an ambulance, video training, skills test</i>
	<b>Training format</b>	* brief training in low-threshold or waiting settings (up to 15 min.) * standard training with structured teaching session: 3 hours; number of sessions: 1

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* advanced training: 16 hours; number of sessions: 1</li> <li>* THN-training is part of a general overdose-management training</li> <li>* refresh sessions provided</li> <li>* other: 3 hour training programme</li> <li>* other: train-the-trainer programme (2 days), repeated if trainer has not trained in 6 months</li> </ul>
	<b>Content of questionnaire for refill</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* reason for re-fill</li> <li>* description of the drug emergency/ situation</li> <li>* ambulance involved</li> <li>* outcome of emergency</li> <li>* <i>complete form is available on <a href="http://www.drugs.ie/naloxone">www.drugs.ie/naloxone</a> F5 in workers pack</i></li> </ul>
	<b>Post-training monitoring</b>	N/A

<b>Performance and resources</b>	<b>Inception and training development</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* physicians</li> <li>* agency staff</li> <li>* administration</li> </ul>	
	<b>Implementation and monitoring</b>	N/A	
	<b>Price of THN kits</b>	€ 29/kit	
	<b>Source of funding</b>	Programme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* specific national funding</li> <li>* <i>funded through the HSE National Social Inclusion Office</i></li> </ul>
Training (if different)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* specific national funding</li> <li>* <i>funded through the HSE National Social Inclusion Office</i></li> </ul>	

<b>Additional information</b>	<b>Project reports, evaluations and scientific papers</b>	<p>Clarke A, Eustace A. Evaluation of the HSE Naloxone Demonstration Project [Internet]. Dublin; 2016. Available from: <a href="https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/26037/1/Naloxonedemoproject.pdf">https://www.drugsandalcohol.ie/26037/1/Naloxonedemoproject.pdf</a> via <a href="http://www.lenus.ie/hse/handle/10147/619155">http://www.lenus.ie/hse/handle/10147/619155</a></p>	
	<b>Training materials</b>	<p><a href="http://www.drugs.ie/resources/naloxone/">http://www.drugs.ie/resources/naloxone/</a> incl. information on How to Respond to an Opioid Overdose during the COVID epidemic. Overdose Frontline Workers Pack: <a href="http://www.drugs.ie/downloadDocs/Naloxone_and_Overdose_Frontline_workers_pack.pdf">http://www.drugs.ie/downloadDocs/Naloxone_and_Overdose_Frontline_workers_pack.pdf</a></p>	
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